

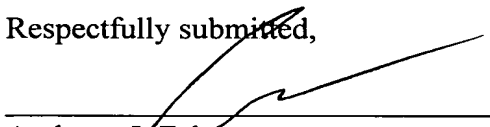
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments incorporate the language of allowed claim 36 into independent claims 20 and 90. All other independent claims having already been allowed, it can be seen that all claims are now in condition for allowance.

This action is being taken in order to obtain a patent quickly on the presently allowed scope of subject matter. In no way does this action imply any agreement or disagreement with any statements made in the office action. Applicants stand by their previous position.

A supplemental amendment will be filed shortly to fill out the protection of dependent claims. A divisional application will also be filed in due course.

Respectfully submitted,



Anthony J. Zelano
Registration No. 27,969
Attorney for Applicants

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1
2200 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 1400
Arlington, Virginia 22201
(703) 812-5311 [Direct Dial]
Internet Address: zelano@mwzb.com

Filed: July 7, 2000

AJZ/tal:K:\PAT\Merck\1753 D1\response of 07JUL00.wpd

D